Attorney Docket No. GEMF 2050-4

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: William K. Bischel et al.

Application No.: 10/702,564

Confirmation No.: 8718

Filed: November 6, 2003

Title: Device and Method for Variable

Attenuation of an Optical Channel

Attorney Docket No.: GEMF 2050-4

Examiner: Alessandro V. Amari

Group: 2872

Customer No. 22470

## RESPONSE A

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This RESPONSE A is in reply to the Office action mailed May 14, 2004. The fee for conversion of claims from dependent form to independent form (\$43.00) is included herewith. An Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith, together with the appropriate fee (\$180.00).

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.